GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:958
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
INDIA ON WORLD TOURISM MAP
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)-2003 has forecast that India could find a permanent berth for itself in the world tourism map if visa-on-arrival scheme was introduced;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to relax visa scheme, provide better air access and develop more airports to bring India into the group of countries that mattered as far as tourism is concerned; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): Visa on arrival is one of the measures suggested by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) to improve tourism flows to India.

(b) and (c): The visa on arrival is not being introduced at present due to current security environment. To improve air connectivity and increase seat capacity, bilateral talks for aviation rights between countries are held from time to time.